## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 01302 080924Z ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 HEW-06 OES-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /053 W

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O 080855Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2161 INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

**UNCLAS GABORONE 1302** 

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: WHO, BC

SUBJECT: LUNCHEON BY SECRETARY CALIFANO AT WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY, GENEVA, MAY 8-24

REF: (A) GABORONE 1214 (B) STATE 108154

1. WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT BOTSWANA'S CHIEF DELEGATE TO WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY WILL BE MINISTER OF HEALTH LENYELETSE SERETSE INSTEAD OF PERMANENT SECRETARY SEBINA AS REPORTED REFTEL. SERETSE WAS BORN JUNE 25, 1920 AT SEROWE, BOTSWANA AND WAS EDUCATED AT SEVERAL SCHOOLS IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE HAS DIPLOMA FROM JAN HOFMEYER INSTITUTE IN SOUTH AFRICA WITH EMPHASIS ON SOCIAL WELFARE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORK. SERETSE WAS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRIBAL AFFAIRS OF BOTSWANA'S DOMINANT TRIBE, THE BAMANGWATO, FROM THE LATE 1940S TO 1974 WHEN HE DECIDED TO ENTER NATIONAL POLITICS.

2. SERETSE WAS ELECTED TO PARLIAMANT AS MEMBER OF BOTSWANA DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND BECAME ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND LANDS IN 1974. HE LATER SERVED AS ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING BEFORE ASSUMING HIS CURRENT MINISTERIAL POST IN 1977. HE HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD TO UK (1962), KENYA (1972), AND THE US (1973). SERETSE IS COUSIN OF PRESIDENT KHAMA. UNCLASSIFIED

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3. ALTHOUGH SERETSE WILL HEAD BOTSWANA'S DELEGATION, SEBINA WILL ACCOMPANY HIM AND WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE BEST INFORMED MEMBER OF DELEGATION ON MEDICAL QUESTIONS.

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## Message Attributes

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